



**THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM  
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**Statement**

**by the Delegation of Viet Nam to the Sixth Committee**

**of the 75<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly**

***Agenda item 77: “Criminal accountability of  
United Nations officials and experts on mission”***

*New York, 12 and 13 October 2020*

*Please check against delivery*

*Mr. Chairman,*

Viet Nam associates itself with the statement delivered by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

We would like to thank the Secretary-General for the comprehensive reports contained in documents A/75/217 and A/75/228 on the implementation of Resolution 74/181 by Member States and policies and procedures by the United Nations system pertaining to criminal accountability of UN officials and experts on mission.

Viet Nam is convinced that UN peacekeepers and personnel, while enjoying immunity in accordance with international law and agreements governing the operations of UN missions, must respect the laws of the host State and of their country of nationality, which is critical to preserve the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations.

We reaffirm our support for the UN Secretary-General’s policy of “zero tolerance” for all criminal activities, including sexual exploitation and abuse committed by UN officials and expert on mission. In order to ensure accountability, any jurisdictional gaps must be addressed. States of nationality should take the primary responsibility in exercising jurisdiction over serious crimes committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials. It is noteworthy that, during the reporting period, the Office of Legal Affairs referred 13 cases of credible allegations of criminal conduct involving field

personnel, 29 cases involving 29 UN officials and experts on mission to the States of nationality for investigation and possible prosecution. The updated table on the nature of allegations and information received from States on all referrals provides a useful reference and is an important step towards ensuring the coordination of policies and procedures relating to the reporting, investigation, referral and follow-up of credible allegations of such crimes. We call upon all States to take necessary steps, including adoption of national legislation and enhancement of international cooperation to ensure criminal accountability. On our part, we stand ready to cooperate with Member States and the United Nations in information sharing, investigation and prosecution in accordance with our national legislation, relevant international commitments and according to United Nations rules and procedures.

Finally, in preventing these offences from taking place, raising awareness of the zero-tolerance policy and UN standards of conduct is no less important. We fully support the continuing efforts by the Secretary-General to ensure pre-deployment training, induction training on arrival and refresher training or otherwise raising awareness of UN personnel regarding the UN standards of conduct.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman./.